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POLAND: Scattered Unrest

The situation in Gdansk eased yesterday, but new strike activity and street demonstrations flared in several other cities.

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[redacted] there was only limited strike activity in Gdansk and no serious clashes between demonstrators and riot police. Leaflets circulating in the shipyards said the time was not ripe for protests and called on workers to wait until 10 November to stage a brief general strike being planned by underground Solidarity. [redacted]

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Reports [redacted] indicate that there were small-scale work stoppages in at least three other cities in the past three days. Clashes with police occurred in Krakow yesterday as workers in the industrial suburb of Nowa Huta and townspeople marched to the center of the city. [redacted]

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In the southwestern city of Wroclaw, various job actions and street demonstrations took place. In Poznan, unconfirmed reports indicate there was a one-hour work stoppage in the city's largest factory on Monday or Tuesday. [redacted]

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Comment: The threat of severe punishments accompanying the militarization of Gdansk shipyards appears to have at least temporarily put a brake on the protests there. The spread of unrest to other cities may have partly been a response to the beginning of the 10th month of martial law. The government probably will continue to apply force wherever necessary to quell future disturbances. [redacted]

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